WASHINGTON – Congressman John B. Larson (CT-01) released the following statement recognizing Black History Month, which begins today:

"Black History Month is an opportunity to reflect on the diversity that makes this nation great; to honor the great contributions of African Americans; and to extend the legacy of the uniquely American promise of equality for all. I know that keeping that promise requires more than just lip service; it demands a firm commitment that everyone gets a fair shot at success regardless of their race, ethnicity, or background.

"With families across the nation struggling to make ends meet, I understand the urgency to act now; to invest in our country, to transform our schools into centers of intellectual discovery and achievement, and to create jobs, so that prosperity can be shared by all.

"America has been a land of opportunity because of the strong dedication of our leaders to working for something beyond themselves. Working to deliver on the promise of civil rights, equality, and justice. I, and my House Democratic colleagues, remain deeply committed to these ideals and to making sure that the American Dream is within reach of every American."